

# LOVEST THOU ME?

John 21:15-17

**John 21:15**

**When they had dined:** After breakfast..

**Simon, son of Jonas,** Old name.

Before Christ

John 1:42 Matt 16:16-18

Phillips: *But now the Lord went back to the old name and left it at that. It is no part of healing a guilty conscience to minimize the seriousness of the offense, nor to conceal the source in the old evil nature from whence it came.*

**More than these things:**

Fish, boat, material things related to fishing.

Or other disciples

.....*do you love me more than these men love me?*

Clarke: *He had before cast the very unkind reflection on his brethren, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. Matthew 26:33. But he had now learned, by dreadful experience, that he who trusteth his own heart is a fool; and that a man's sufficiency for good is of the Lord alone.*

Luke 22:33 John 13:37

Peter denied three times

Jesus asks for triple confession

**Lovest thou me...?** Agape... total giving, sacrificial, love.

Highest kind of love

**Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.**

Phileo: brotherly love; fond of you; friendship;

I am personally attached to you.

I care about you.

Peter not making brash statement.

**Jesus asking Peter?** Willing to sacrifice all?

**Thou knowest.** you see through me.

**Feed:** provide nourishment, pasture

**Lambs:** New borns

Jesus directing Peter's thinking away from fishing to ministry.

Jesus giving Peter hope.

### **John 21:16**

**Lovest thou me?** Unconditionally, without any reservation, sacrificially....

Jesus asking Peter to give him absolute answer.

**Lord:** Master, boss, supreme ruler of my life

**Knowest:** you have great perception. You see through me.

**Thou knowest that I love thee:** I have brotherly love toward you.

**Feed:** take care of, rule, govern, protect, tend

Maybe Jesus giving Peter insight on how treat sheep at different levels of growth

**Sheep:** older sheep

1 Peter 5:2

Reason why feed lambs...tend sheep.. **Because we love Him!**

Phileo love--if don't love Jesus with friendship love we are accursed.

**1 Corinthians 16:22** *If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.*

Anathema--excommunicated; Banned from fellowship with God.

Lenski: *Whoever lacks even this lowest, cheapest type of love is, of course, hopeless...*

Phileo love: to cherish Him; be tender toward Him; desire to please Him.

1 John-- if not have agape love for God and the brethren --not born-again.

### **John 21:17**

**Lovest thou me:** Phileo me? Are you my friend.

**Grieved:** thrown into sorrow. In heaviness; distressed. Deeply hurt.

**because he said... Lovest thou me?**

Because Jesus had said unto him the third time, do you phileo me?

**Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.**

You have a great perception of me....

You see me as I am

**Barnes:** *Here is the expression of a humbled soul—soul made sensible of its weakness and need of strength, yet with evidence of true attachment to the Saviour.*

**Phillips:** *You know I have personal affection for you. You know me through and through. You know everything. You know what I said and what I did and what I am. You know me better than I know myself. Lord, out of all your knowledge of me you know I have brotherly love for you. You know I love you (phileo) and I know I can never love you the way you love me (agape): It was the confession of a man who had been put to the wall*

*by his conscience and who stood now before the Lord, broken, aware of his weakness, sensitive to his limitations, and afraid ever to boast again.*

Peter learned--can't trust own heart.

Prov. 28:26 1 Cor. 10:12

***thou knowest that I love thee.***

You know what really inside me.

You knew all along that my life didn't match my words.

Jesus' approach to Peter

Question: appeals to conscience

Jesus' answer: gave Peter hope

Showed mercy.

**Roy Hession We Would See Jesus.**

*To concentrate on service and activity for God may often actively thwart our attaining of the true goal, God himself. At first sight it seems heroic to fling our lives away in the service of God and of our fellows. We feel it is bound to mean more to him than our experience of him. Service seems so unselfish, whereas concentrating on our walk with God seems selfish and self-centered. But it is the very reverse. The things that God is most concerned about are our coldness of heart towards himself and our proud, unbroken natures. Christian service of itself can, and so often does, leave our self-centered nature untouched....with those things hidden in our hearts, we have only to work alongside others, and we find resentment, hardness, criticism, jealousy, and frustration issuing from our hearts. We think we are working for God, but the test of how little of our service is for him is revealed by our resentment or self-pity...We need to leave our lusting for ever-larger spheres of Christian service and concentrate on seeing God for ourselves and finding the deep answer for life in him.* Roy and Revel Hession, We Would See Jesus (Ft. Washington, PA: Christian Literature Crusade, 1961), p.15

## **So what?**

Bottom line of service to God?

Do you agape me?

Do you phileo me?